



# NEWS FOR YOU FROM DISTRICT 2

FROM THE OFFICE OF COUNCIL PRESIDENT PRO TEMGEORGE CUSHINGBERRY JR.



District 2 Hardcopy Newsletter

February/March 2017

## February is Property Tax Appeal Month

Hurry up! Make plans to appeal your assessment between the dates of February 2nd through 16th. This is the time to plan to lower your property tax if you feel that your assessment is unfair. There are three possible steps to the annual appeal process:

1. Assessors Review (local)
2. March Board of Review (local)
3. Michigan Tax Tribunal (state)

If you are not satisfied with the local assessor's review, you have a right to appeal the March board of review. If you are not satisfied with the March review, then you can appeal to the Michigan Tax Tribunal. This is the primary method on lowering your tax rate on your property. Property taxes are determined by the aggregate value of property in your neighborhood. In some cases your taxes may increase even though you purchased the property in a auction of foreclosure. Regardless of that, we strongly encourage you to purchase property in our district.

If know a Veteran that needs some help, Programs like the MI Veterans Trust Fund, Soldiers and Sailors Relief, and Wayne County Burial Reimbursement help are available. Emergency Grants are available to honorable war time veterans and their spouses and their dependent children. Please contact **John Gardner** [jgardner@waynecounty.com](mailto:jgardner@waynecounty.com) at 313 224-5659 with the Wayne County Veterans Services at 28 W. Adams, Suite 1710 Detroit, MI 48226

## Side Lot Sales with the City of Detroit.

The Detroit Land Bank is pleased to offer the opportunity for residents to purchase "side lots" – the vacant lot next door, for just \$100. Residents are able to either buy their side lot online or directly from our website. Side lots can also be purchased by attending side lot fairs that are put on several times each year. For more information and to find out if there is a lot that you are eligible, For more information please contact 1-844-BUY-DLBA or by mail at [communityrelations@detroitlandbank.org](mailto:communityrelations@detroitlandbank.org)

## Need Help with Employment!

DESC provided services to over 23,000 jobseekers last program year, and over 1,500 Metro-Detroit businesses. Through our partnerships with community-based and faith-based organizations, foundations and many others, we provide employers with access to the broadest talent pool in Detroit, and jobseekers with the widest range of job-related services. . DESC has three One-Stop Service Centers located in East, Southwest and Northwest Detroit. Samaritan Center, 5555 Conner, Detroit, MI 48213, SER Metro, 9301 Michigan Avenue, Detroit, MI 48210 and, Northwest Activities Center, 18100 Meyers, Detroit, MI 48235



## Heat & Water Assistance

**Northwest Activities Center 18100 Meyers Detroit, MI 48235**

Wayne Metropolitan Community Action Agency  
Providing help to low and moderate income individuals and families in Wayne County since 1971.

[www.waynemetro.org](http://www.waynemetro.org)

## Help Eliminate Auto Thefts

**HEAT®** (Help Eliminate Auto Thefts) is Michigan's statewide auto theft prevention program that coordinates citizen action with law enforcement agencies through a confidential, toll-free tip line **(1-800-242-HEAT)** for reporting information on stolen vehicles and suspected auto theft activities including insurance fraud and car-jackings [www.miheat.org](http://www.miheat.org)



Wayne County Clerk  
Birth & Death Records  
is moving to:  
400 Monroe St 48226

Phone (313) 224-0328  
Closed week of Feb 20-28  
Reopens March 1st, 2017

## Council President Pro Tempore George Cushingberry Jr.

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# Johnson Recreation Center & Higginbotham School Sale

Currently, the [Johnson Center](#) property including the [Higginbotham School](#) is for sale for \$1.5 million dollars. As of this writing, no formal proposal has reached the Council for approval. There are many proposals being talked about and tossed around about the property. One of most talked about was from the University of Detroit Jesuit High School for an annex to the school. Other proposals from different interests will follow soon and, they all will be presented to the people at a full meeting of the entire council. When a solid proposal is presented, citizens are urged to voice their opinion in writing and in person at the next meeting of the entire City Council.



Listen to The Prospector Reveals with Pastor George Cushingberry Jr. Every Saturday from 2-3pm EDT on Historic Soul Radio Station 1440 AM WMKM Detroit MI. You can watch us Livestream on Councilmember George Cushingberry Jr's Facebook page or listen online at [www.gospel1440.com](http://www.gospel1440.com)

## Thursday Night Jazz on the Livernois Avenue of Fashion

Starting every Thursday from May until August, the Livernois Avenue Of Fashion Business Owners Association will be sponsoring a Jazz Set in the parking lot at Livernois and Outer Drive, across from Simply Casual clothing store. According to Vice President Jason Dixon quality musicians will be scheduled to play. Weather permitting, food and drinks nearby at the 1917 Bistro this event will give the Avenue additional ambience to enjoy the evening.

Sponsored by  
The Northwest Unity  
Baptist Church  
8343 Ellsworth  
Detroit, MI 48235  
Pastor Oscar King



**New St. Paul Tabernacle  
Head Start Agency Inc.  
15362 Southfield Dr.  
Detroit, MI 48223  
(313) 835-4400**

Hosting the HS/EHS program. To qualify you must verify your household income and, your child's age and proof of residency. Children must current up to date immunization and a well child exam, Children over the age of 12 months must have a dental examination for enrollment

## Protesting Proposed School Closings Tips and Techniques

The recent list of school closings in Detroit will create an undue hardship on parents and children. The creation of organizations like the Educational Achievement Authority has only made things worse. If there is anything that needs to be closed down, it is the Education Authority because they have failed on their mission of Educational achievement. To prevent the shut down of schools, we are encouraging citizens to contact State and Federal representatives and:

1. Demand a Federal investigation for fraud, waste, and mismanagement of Public schools by the EAA and private-public partnerships.
2. Resist any attempt to close anymore neighborhood schools by parents banding together and suing the State for damages for educational malpractice.
3. Contact Judge Stephen Rhodes and let him and the transition team hear your voice in opposition to shutting down schools.
4. Encourage students to study civics and get involved in their community politically to demand quality courses and educational opportunities in public schools.
5. Address the Detroit Community School Board to support the move of Benjamin O. Davis High School back to Detroit City Airport Grounds
6. Sign a ballot initiative to establish a cap on Charter Schools that has a 1/2 mile radius so that you don't have 10 charter high schools in a 2.5 mile radius of each other
7. Sign a ballot initiative to require auditing of student progress in for profit charter schools.



**LAHC- Leaders Advancing and Helping Communities**  
Scholarship Opportunity for High School, Undergraduate, and Graduate Students. Deadline to apply is March 17, 2017  
Contact [LAHC.ORG/](http://LAHC.ORG/)